

DWR People

Fall 2003

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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THE NEW 5TH Floor

Facilities Management Office's staff (Left to Right) Bud Miller, Chief Jennie Alonzo, and Victor Macsul compare the plans with the construction area for the Resources Building's fifth floor

Budget Update



I was recently asked to write my first 11th Floor View column and was deeply honored by the request. And then after thinking about it for a moment asked Linda Cooper, my assistant and former assistant to Deputy Director Jonas Minton and Chief Deputy Director Steve Macaulay, if there was a suggested topic or should I just think something up. So, like any successful assistant, Linda went and asked somebody else. The word came back that I could write about anything but maybe I would consider writing about the budget. Ah yes, the budget. Good idea. I know something about that. Where should I start?

As you all know, at last count California was looking at an

estimated \$38 billion deficit. That amount is huge, larger even than some other states' annual budget. However, to place our deficit in context with others, nearly every state in the nation has a budget crisis in roughly the same proportion to their annual budget. So maybe we are not so unique after all?

Let's look a moment at the impacts the budget crisis has had on DWR. We have had a hiring freeze that has grown increasingly hard since October 23, 2001. The freeze, along with our approach to meeting budget cuts through attrition, has resulted in a reduction of staff from approximately 3,000 to 2,500. On the budget side, we began with reductions in the neighborhood of 2 to 5 percent, had an Operating Expense and Equipment cut of 10 percent, and recently submitted 16 percent General Fund and 12 percent special fund cuts to the Department of Finance for fiscal year 2003-2004. Finance has yet to act on that submittal. In terms of cold hard cash, the DWR General Fund has dropped from a fiscal year 2000-2001 high of \$135 million to just \$31.8 million for fiscal year 2003-2004. We have taken deep cuts in all funds and we have lost people, programs, and dollars. Depressing yes, but there is some good news.

Through the resourcefulness of DWR management we have accom-

plished all of these reductions without having to lay off one single employee. We have lost programs or parts of them but to this point we have preserved our most important core functions. And even through these trying times, we have kept the high standards of quality work the Department is known for. Interim Director Mike Spear mentions frequently how impressed he is with the people and quality of the Department. And recently Finance showed signs of thawing on their freeze position for State Water Project staffing and funding. Overall, the economy may be about to turn, but who knows?

All I know is that you all have done an incredible job during a difficult time. Someday things will turn and we'll perhaps rebuild what we have lost. All I know for sure is that you have taken everything that has come our way and dealt with it like the true professionals you are. Thank you all.

Stephen W. Verigin
Acting Chief Deputy Director

THE NEW 5TH Floor

By Margarita Macias

Sometimes it takes a lot of work to improve a work environment.

Planning and teamwork — DWR hallmarks — have transformed the north side of the Resources Building's fifth floor into a more modern, efficient office space, sweeping away a closed-in atmosphere of clutter and crowding.

The spirit-boosting renovation, now open for all to see, was accomplished by DWR staff from Facilities, Engineering, Contracts, and Technology Services' Telecommunications Office.

"The renovation has allowed people to move from dirty work areas with wobbly partitions, corroded bookcases, and outdated/mismatched furniture dating back to the 1960's, to modern, efficient workspaces with better lighting, and even carpeting," said Chief of the Division of Engineering Les Harder. "This is another example of how DWR's multi-disciplinary teams can work together to develop an outstanding product that works for everyone."

According to Chief of the Departmental Services Office Tom Speer, this refurbishment project took far longer than any other that we have undertaken due to the number of unexpected problems that they had to face.

"Les Harder and his staff were very patient and understanding, which we greatly appreciated. It took a lot of hard work, dedication,

cooperation, and coordination from a lot of different employees in various organizations to accomplish this job," said Tom. "They are all to be commended and can be proud of the product of their efforts. The north side of the fifth floor is now open with lots of natural light and much more storage space than was previously available. We anticipate that the south side refurbishment will go just as well, albeit in a much shorter timeframe."

As the first step in the refurbishment project, more than 140 Division of Engineering employees, along with their furniture and materials, were relocated to the Bonderson Building across the street, or elsewhere on the Resources Building's fifth floor. Then, the Fifth Floor North Side Refurbishment Project, involving DWR employees including Facilities Management Office Chief Jennie Alonzo and Bud Miller, Sylvia Correa, Theresa Moser, Lynne Esparza, and Victor Macsul of her staff, began in earnest. Among others on the team were Division of Engineering staff members C.Y. Kan, Johnny Lim, Louis Garcia, Susan Schorch, and Paul Benavidez. Joyce Novoa, Yolanda Evangelista, and Ray Valdivino were from the Telecommunications Office. Each of these DWR employees worked on one or more aspects of the project, which ranged from creating a plan to construction.

Creating layout plans for the



Top: Chief of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Branch Farshid Falaki shows the new carpet with diamond shapes located at all hallway entrances. The Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Branch is now located on the fifth floor's north side.

Above left: Senior Electrical Engineer Om Lakhotia of the Electrical Engineering Section works at his new modular furnished office.

Above: Kathryn Murray of Management Services' fifth floor file station files engineering documents in the new

Creating a Plan

fifth floor project began with Engineering staff submitting a green sheet, which is a space planning data sheet that quantifies staff, storage, and operational requirements. After Engineering's Architectural Office staff received the green sheets from the Civil Engineering and Mechanical and Electrical staff members, the Architects began designing the plans.

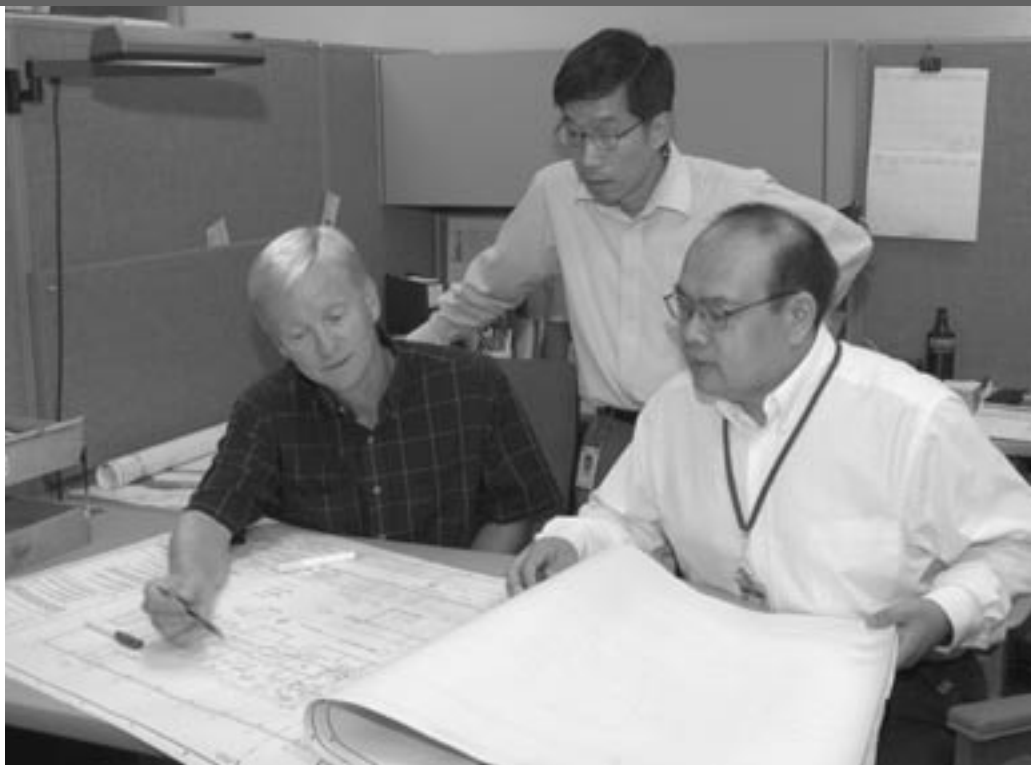
After completing the designs, the plans were sent for approval to eight different offices, including the Department of General Services and the State Fire Marshal.

"This project was difficult not because of the size or technical requirements, but because of the many unexpected changes and uncontrollable delays that occurred during the design process," said Associate Architect **C.Y. Kan**, who was the Lead Architect on the fifth floor's north side. "The lessons that we learned from the north side will benefit us for the south side and future projects."

C.Y. has worked nine years with DWR. Along with C.Y., other Architectural Office staff that worked on the project include Architectural Designer **Johnny Lim**, and previous Lead Design Staffs' Retired Annuitant and Associate Architect **Louis Garcia**, and Associate Space Planner **Susan Schorch**.

"Johnny and I are currently working on the design of the fifth floor south side," said C.Y. "Refurbishment projects take a lot of coordination and I want to thank everyone involved for their patience and cooperation during the construction and design process. If all goes as planned, the south side will be completed in 2004."

Six contracts had to be approved by DWR and DGS staff for the work to begin. The contracts, which



(Left to Right) Chief of Engineering's Architectural Office **Pedar Remme** and his staff **C.Y. Kan** (standing) and **Johnny Lim** view the final architectural plans for the fifth floor refurbishment.

The Contracts

normally take up to six months from beginning to end for approval, included work for general construction, asbestos abatement, telecommunications, electrical, modular furniture installation, and moving companies.

"I put together the contracts for construction, electrical, asbestos, moving, and modular installation

services," said Staff Services Analyst **Theresa Moser**, who has been with DWR more than 10 years and has worked on contracts since February 2003. "It takes a lot of coordination between DWR and contractors' staff to make sure the project goes smoothly."

After the contracts and design plans were approved, Engineering's

The Move

Space Coordinator **Paul Benavidez** and Facilities Move Coordinator **Sylvia Correa** began the move plans.

"Engineering's Civil Engineering Branch moved first," said Paul, who joined DWR in 2000. "Because of the size of the move, it took several moves to clear the area for construction."

Facilitating moves is nothing new to Sylvia. She has coordinated several DWR moves, including the

Division of Flood Management's relocation to the Project Operations Center and the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's move to the Bonderson Building.

"Each phase of the fifth floor moves took two weeks of preparation work that included finalizing floor plans, labels, and boxes," said Sylvia, who is a Business Services Assistant and has worked for Facilities since 2000. "The first move, which

began in November of 2001 with 60 employees moving from the north side to the Bonderson Building, took three, 12-hour days.”

Charcy Moving Company, which worked on the first move, moved six to eight truckloads of material to Bonderson, as well as three semitrailer and six truckloads of surplus furniture to the warehouse.

The three phases of the south side were done in June of 2003 with the help of Wind Dancer Moving Company. The first phase was moving file stations 450, 538, 742 to the fifth floor and the four employees located in them. The second phase was moving 56 employees from the south side to the north side and clearing all furniture from the south side. The third phase was moving 26 employees from the south side to Bonderson and also clearing out all the furniture to prepare for construction.

“To complete all three phases, we moved a total of 86 employees from the south side to the north side and Bonderson Building,” said Sylvia. “This meant taking four truckloads to the Bonderson Building, plus four semitrailers and 11 truckloads of surplus furniture to the Warehouse.”

“As surplus coordinator, I assisted with the move of staff from the south side of the building to the newly refurbished north side. I also oversaw the keying of the fifth floor north side,” said Business Services Assistant **Lynne Esparza**, who has worked two years at DWR. “I took inventory of the surplus property that was obtained from the move, and arranged to have it transported to the Sixth and R streets Warehouse and our Natomas Warehouse. I also prepared the necessary documentation to have it sent to DGS or added it to our inventory for future



As movers load furniture from the fifth floor onto the moving truck, Business Services Assistant Sylvia Correa (right) reviews furniture move schedule with Wind Dancer Moving

At the Natomas Warehouse, Business Services Assistant Lynne Esparza takes inventory of the more than 50 desks from the 5th floor



use.”

This was one of DWR’s bigger relocation projects principally because of the huge amount of reference materials used by the fifth floor staff.

“However, time was the biggest challenge in this move,” said Sylvia. “Each phase of the project was quite

complex and needed to be completed by the end of the fiscal year along with other priority projects.”

As a lead on the fifth floor project, **Bud Miller**, who joined DWR in 2001, developed task orders for the construction projects. Since the Resources Building is leased from General Services, Bud had to inform General Services of every job being

The Construction

done in the building from demolition to wiring.

Bud, who is asbestos certified, has worked on all phases of construction in his previous job assignments. He worked 11 years for the Department of General Services.

Because of several unexpected delays, including re-bidding of the construction contract, the north side restoration took an unexpected five years to complete.

"Our work has a domino effect," said Facilities Management Office Chief **Jennie Alonzo**. "One job depends on another to get done. For example, the asbestos abatement cannot occur until the interior walls are demolished." Jennie has worked for Facilities since 1995 and for DWR since 1981.

The construction began with the demolition of walls, and then new walls were built out. Department of General Services' staff assisted with the demolition of electrical wires and flooring.

The hazardous materials contractor followed with the asbestos abatement and lead testing. Asbestos abatement is a long, labor-intensive process. Asbestos-related work must be done on weekends.

After asbestos abatement was completed, the wiring of telecommunications and electrical equipment began. Technology Services staff from the Telecommunications Office assisted in the wiring of new phone lines and data lines for computers.

"When the building was built, the electrical supply was grouped together with three floors per transformer," said Bud. "With a much larger need for electrical supply today due to computers and more equipment, we decided to demolish the older electrical system and build an



Associate Electrical Engineer Parviz Karami finds engineering documents at Electrical Engineering's new reference library.

entire new electrical system with one transformer for each floor."

With the wiring completed, the walls were painted by Department of General Services staff. Then, the carpeting and modular furniture was installed.

"As Bud's assistant, the fifth floor north side was a stepping-stone for me to build experience on," said

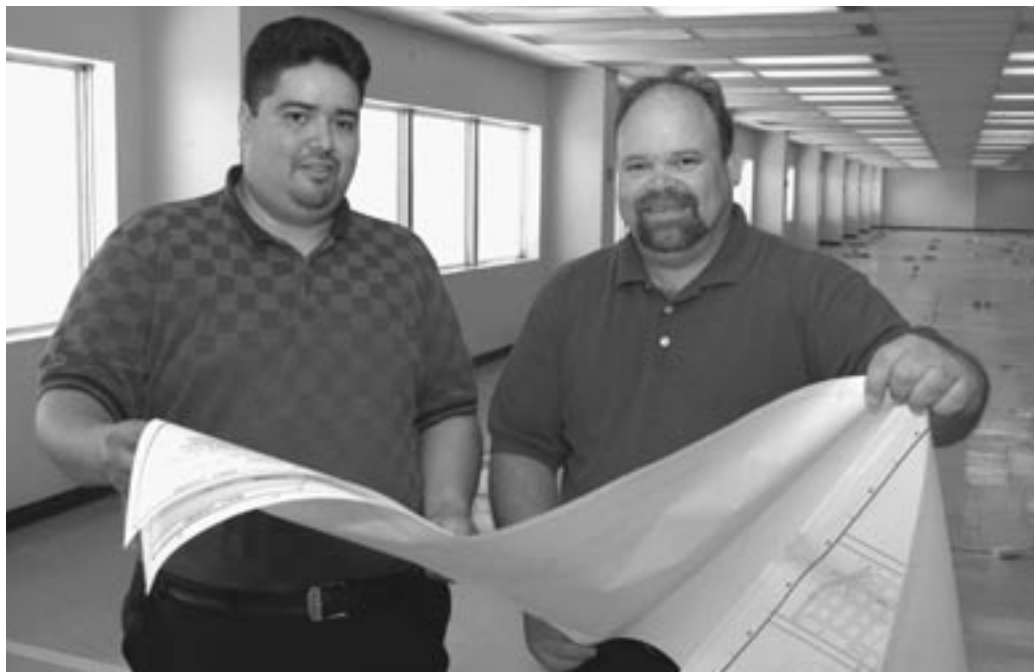
Victor Macsul, a Business Services Assistant with Facilities. "I entered into SAP all the data needed for the purchasing of the fifth floor's modular furniture."

During his three years with DWR, Victor has worked on other projects, such as the asbestos abatement at Lake Perris and remodeling of Red Bluff facilities. With the fifth floor's north side completed in May, the staff has taken this experience with them to work on the fifth floor's south side.

"And, thanks to the surplus modular furniture that DWR was able to obtain from the Department of Education, the cost of refurbishing the south side of the fifth floor will be significantly less," said Bud. "Since the average cost of a new cubicle runs about \$10,000, the Department will save a lot by using this donated furniture which is only a couple of years old."



Engineering's Paul Benavidez & Facilities Management's Bud Miller worked as a team to make this move run smoothly.



Fireworks at Lake Oroville

For the eighth consecutive year, thousands of spectators turned out for the free Fourth of July fireworks show that's become a tradition at Lake Oroville.

"More than 16,000 people attended the event, making this one of the best turnouts," said **John Ford**, Guide at Oroville Field Division. "In 2002, we had about 10,000 people."

Sponsored by the Sunrise Rotary Club of Oroville and the Department of Water Resources (in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the City of Oroville, and local businesses), the half-hour pyrotechnic display exploded over the huge State Water Project reservoir in Butte County at 9:45 p.m.

"Lake Oroville provides Northern California with one of the best fireworks displays in the area," said DWR's Oroville Field Division Chief **Jim Blood** (now retired). "The people who come have an opportunity not only to celebrate our nation's Independence Day but also to learn more about the many recreational facilities within the Oroville Field Division."

From their position on top of the mile-long Oroville Dam, DWR employees helped run a booth where children could color banners with the theme "Having Fun at Lake Oroville." Staff members took instant photos that children could attach to banners showing people enjoying water-related recreation. One of the banners is displayed at the Lake Oroville Visitors Center.

DWR also provided the ever-popular fish simulator, which drew a large crowd of children and adults to test their skill at fishing for a simulated five-pound large-mouth bass.

Because the Fourth of July fell on a Friday this year, many people took advantage of the three-day weekend to enjoy the many boating, fishing, camping, hiking and riding opportunities at Lake Oroville, which has 167 miles of shoreline and a surface area of nearly 16,000 acres.

The Department of Parks and Recreation operates the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, which offers land and floating campsites, boat ramp facilities, riding trails, and a group equestrian camp.

Celebrating the Fourth of July with a Parade

In celebration of the Fourth of July, Southern Field Division staff participated in Santa Clarita's annual Fourth of July parade. With the help of DWR volunteers and their families, DWR won second place in the parade for its decorated pontoon titled the U.S.S. Aqueduct.

During the two-mile parade around the Newhall area, more than 30,000 people attended the event with over 3,000 participants. The parade themed "Let Freedom Ring" began at 9:45 a.m. and ended at about noon. After the parade, the judging of parade entries and a Country Fair was held at Newhall Park.

"Every year the parade gets 'bigger and better' and we get a little more creative each year with our decorations," said **Kathy Simmons**, Outreach Coordinator for Southern Field Division.

DWR employees who helped at this event included Southern Field Division's **Ray Ramirez**, **Frank Politelli**, **Shaun Freiburg**, **Isabelle Cruz**, **Lorraine Costanzo**, **Sherian McCauley**, **Matthew Martin**, and **Kathy Simmons**.



Southern Field Division Staff and their families ride aboard their award-winning pontoon titled the U.S.S. Aqueduct. The pontoon also carried a large banner to promote Vista del Lago Visitors Center.

(Left to Right) H2O Force Softball Team includes Angela Costantino, Deanna Sesso, Phillip Sanchez, Kimberly Deane, Phyllis Green, Mike Bingaman, Victor Garcia, Theresa Wabinga, Emiliano Nunez, Anetra Armas, Joe Armas, and Ron Thomas. (Not in



H2O Force Softball Team

Since the summer of 2003, more than 10 DWR employees in the Sacramento area have gathered to play softball as part of the H2O Force Team.

In addition to the four members not from DWR, the team consists of DWR employees from the divisions of Management Services, Executive, and Technology Services. From Management Services, the employees include Staff Information Systems Analyst **Deanna Sesso**, Associate Information Systems Analyst **Phillip Sanchez**, Associate Governmental Program Analyst **Kimberly Deane**, Business Services Assistant **Mike Bingaman**, Business Services Officer **Ron Thomas**, Associate Information Systems Analyst **Phyllis Green**, and Business Services Officer **Derek Yagi**. From Executive, there are Office Technician **Joe Armas** and Management Services Technician **Theresa Wabinga**. Associate Information Systems Analyst **Victor Garcia** is from Technology Services.

"When we started this team, I knew only two or three people on the team," said Joe, Co-Team Leader.

"I now have 12 new friends because of this team."

The H2O Force team, which plays in the Coed Division D League, meets Monday nights at the Sacramento Softball Complex on Watt Avenue in Sacramento.

"Although we are part of the league, we are mostly out there for fun and exercise," said Deanna, Co-Team Leader. "We created this team because some of us were very interested in playing softball. By word of mouth, we had a team in one day. We have a very talented group of players and are having such a good time that we signed up for the next league."

"We plan to continue playing softball together as long as possible," said Kimberly, who is part of the team.

If you are interested in joining the H2O Force team or creating another DWR team, please contact Joe Armas at (916) 653-5791 or Deanna Sesso at (916) 653-9865.

Blood Drive Update

DWR's Next Blood Drive is November 19. In 2004, Blood Drives are being planned for January, March, May, July, September and November.

Donors must be in general good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be at least 17 years old (16 with written parental/guardian permission). For more information about donating blood, visit the

Blood Source's Web site at www.bloodsource.org or email questions to DWR's Blood Drive Coordinator **Lynne Bitnoff** at blooddrive@water.ca.gov

If you would like to donate blood, visit DWR's internal Web site at <http://donateblood.water.ca.gov/cgi-bin/donor> or email Lynne.

DWR People Survey Results

DWR People staff thanks everyone who responded to the questionnaire in the Summer 2003 DWR People newsletter to determine if readers prefer to receive the newsletter in print or electronic form. More than 75 percent of those responding wish to continue receiving hard copies of DWR People. As a result, the newsletter will continue to be printed on recycled paper and mailed to you. However, DWR People is now available on DWR's Web site for those who prefer an electronic form. And posting the newsletter electronically allows us to reduce the printing run since those who desire extra copies now may

simply visit the DWR People Web site at <http://www.wow.water.ca.gov/information/people.cfm>

Those who prefer receiving paper copies of the newsletter have a variety of reasons, ranging from not having access to a computer to a simple preference for reading a hard copy.

Beginning with the Winter 2004 newsletter, DWR People and DWR News will be combined into one newsletter called DWR News/People.

Please address questions to DWR People Editor Maggie Macias at (916) 653-8743 or mmacias@water.ca.gov

State Employees Heart Walk

To help fight heart disease, more than 30 DWR employees raised \$5,119 and walked around the State Capitol during the 2003 American Heart Walk for State Employees on September 4.

"Thanks to the outstanding job by participants in obtaining sponsorships, our Department surpassed the goal of \$3,000," said **Karina Kugel**, DWR's Heart Walk Coordinator. "Last year, we raised \$2,784."

The DWR division raising the most was the Division of Planning and Local Assistance with \$2,956. Other Divisions participating included Technology Services, Fiscal Services, Bay-Delta Office, Land and Right of Way, and Office of Water Use Efficiency, Management Services' Personnel Office, and Office of Water Education's Graphic Services Branch.



Division of Planning and Local Assistance walkers included: (Left to Right) **Back Row:** Nikki Blomquist, Christina Kuo, Stacy Hart, Carl Hauge, Tom Hawkins, Eric Senter, and Brian Niski. **Middle Row:** Janiene Friend, Neli Khodamardi, Nancy Pashugin, Josie Kamal. **Front Row** (kneeling): Barbara Cross, Brenda Main, Doris Fodge, Ann Roth.



Some of DWR's Heart Walk participants included (Left to Right) **Standing:** Neli Khodamardi, Irma Peralez, Rebecca Martello, Cheryl Davis, Faye Portman, Karina Kugel, Virginia Sajac, Sushil Arora, Will Murray, Marlo Coleman. **Sitting:** Jane Schafer-Kramer, Kathy Aldana, Teresa Chaney, and Cindy Zens.



DANA BRAZELTON
AND R.C. CARRIER III



LUCINDA CHIPPONERI
AND AMANDA TUERN



CHERYL ATKINSON
AND ADRIANA CASTRO



ROBERT CRANE
AND ARMANDO DUZEL

Helping Others Succeed – The Literacy Pal Program

As school year 2003-04 begins, DWR employees are preparing to participate in the Literacy Pal Program. The Literacy Pal Program was created in 1997 as part of DWR's Mentor Program. Its purpose is to develop students' reading, writing, and correspondence skills.

"There are several benefits to this program, such as enjoying a personal letter monthly and an ongoing relationship in which you are a literacy pal, mentor, and a friend," said **Rosemary Thomas**, Mentor Program Coordinator. "Last year, our program was with Jedediah Smith Elementary School's fourth and sixth graders. We hope to extend our program to another school this year."

In addition to replying to a monthly letter from their Literacy Pal, DWR employees are asked to attend the "Tea" at the end of the school year in June, when they get to meet their Literacy Pals in the classroom.

"The 'Tea' is a great day... the students are really excited about meeting the person that they have been writing to all year," said **Dana Brazelton** of Management Services, who plans to participate again next year.

Some 37 DWR employees served as mentors in last year's Literacy Pal program, which was judged a success by all involved.

"The literacy program helped my students by giving them a purpose for writing. Many of my students were reluctant to write, but writing to real people and receiving letters was just too enticing for even the most reluctant student to pass up," said Jedediah Smith Elementary School Teacher Pamela Bryan. "Another important aspect was the connection to the people who are working professionals — as many of my students don't have this type of contacts in their lives. During only our second week of school this year, about a dozen students asked me about the Literacy Pal Program. Now that's success."

Many DWR employees participating in the program hope to take part again.

During the four years that **Cheryl Atkinson** has participated in the program, she has enjoyed seeing the children's eyes light up when they see their mentors show up for the "Tea" at the end of the year.

"I feel it would be great if we could sponsor an additional school near the JOC," said Cheryl, an Associate Governmental Program Analyst with California Energy Resources Scheduling Division. "If we could get started in this area, I'm sure a number of staff would welcome the chance to be a positive role model for children, in their own community."

"In addition to serving as a positive role model for the students, I enjoyed communicating with and meeting an active, smart, personable, and impressive girl," said Deputy Director **Lucinda Chipponeri**. "My assigned student, Amanda, gives me confidence that today's youth will provide tomorrow's leadership."

Robert Crane of Flood Management gained insight into the students' environment and family life. "It is a worthwhile program that reinforces written communication skills and provides possible mentor benefit," said Robert.

"I also gained a lot from this program," said **Liz Joiner**, an Office Technician with the California Energy Resources Scheduling Division. "This program not only made me feel like I accomplished something, but I felt like I gave back to the community. It was very enjoyable and it doesn't take a lot of time to read and respond to a letter that gives the children a sense of importance."

For Dana, the best part of the program was receiving artwork from her Literacy Pal that he made especially for her. "It is great to be able to demonstrate that DWR employees care about the community they serve and the people in it," said Dana.

If you are interested in joining the Literacy Pal Program, please contact Rosemary Thomas at (916) 653-

October is National Disability Awareness Month, which promotes understanding, awareness, and sensitivity about persons with disabilities.

The Department of Water Resources is considered one of the most proactive Departments in providing services and assistance to persons with disabilities, and is committed to providing a workplace in which all individuals are treated with respect, professionalism, and dignity. As part of Disability Awareness Month, the Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations Office has prepared some guidelines for relating to people with disabilities.

Simple Respect It Makes A Difference.

- Not all disabilities are visible.
- Treat persons with disabilities as adults, not children or objects of curiosity. Do not ignore them or ask their companions what they want.
- If you think assistance is needed, ask first, then LISTEN. Do not assume that the person is helpless.
- Don't assume that one disability implies others.
- Don't think that because a person is disabled, they are also stupid or ignorant.
- Pay attention to ABILITIES not DISABILITIES.
- Don't assume that a person with a disability is extraordinary because they do ordinary things. Do not assume that a person with a disability requires pity or admiration.
- Don't assume that a disabled person is financially dependent.
- Do not lean or hang on someone's wheelchair.
- Never distract a guide dog or assistance animal from their job without the owner's permission.
- Always identify yourself and others who may be with you when meeting someone with a visual disability. Do not walk away from a conversation with a blind or sight-impaired person without letting the person know that you are leaving.
- Offer to shake hands when introduced. People with limited hand use or an artificial limb can usually shake hands, and offering the opposite hand is an acceptable greeting.
- Relax. Do not be afraid to use words in a normal context. Do not be embarrassed if you use common expressions such as "See you later" or, "Did you hear about this?" to persons who are sight or hearing impaired.
- DO NOT USE words and/or terms such as: crippled, sick, invalid, afflicted, wheel-chair bound, victim, confined to a wheel-chair, deformed, deaf and dumb, deaf-mute, dummy, retard, crazy, blind man/woman, stricken with, incapacitated, spastic.
- DO USE: People with physical disabilities; hearing/sight-impaired; differently-abled; people who use wheelchairs; people who are physically/mentally-abled or challenged, mental disability, physical disability, caused by.

Northern District staff of the Division of Planning and Local Assistance provided technical assistance and public information to local officials and citizens about water contamination in the Antelope area of Red Bluff.

At the request of the Tehama County Department of Environmental Health and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB), the Northern District's Water Quality and Biology Section and Groundwater Section evaluated groundwater in the Antelope area of Red Bluff for nitrate, coliform bacteria, and groundwater level. Nitrate was analyzed from water samples from 88 private wells, coliform bacteria in 48 wells, and groundwater level was measured in 78 wells during different times of the year 2002 – repeating similar studies in 1985 and 1990.

The water samples for nitrate and bacteria analyses were collected by Environmental Scientists **Tom Boul-**



Good Presentation on Bad Water

lion and **Perry LeBeouf**, Scientific Aid **Arin Conner**, and Student Assistant **Petra Lee** under the direction of **Jerry Boles**, Chief of Northern District's Water Quality and Biology Section.

"County officials were concerned about periodic water samples from private wells that indicated elevated concentrations of bacteria and nitrate in the groundwater," said Jerry. Nitrate, which is potentially harmful to some infants, was detected from private wells at levels above the California Environmental Protection Agency standards primarily in the densely populated area west of Trinity Avenue and north of Antelope Boulevard.

In late June 2003, DWR, Tehama County DEH, and CVRWQCB staffs hosted a public meeting at the Berrendos School in the Antelope area to present results of the groundwater study, discuss health implications, and provide information on solutions to the groundwater contamination. About a hundred concerned citizens listened attentively while **Tom Boullion** of Northern District presented results of the study. Members of the audience expressed concern about both dangers to their health and the cost of new treatment facilities.

In May 2003, a Chico TV station had reported that water in the Antelope area was causing adverse health

effects and subsequently that water in all of Red Bluff was contaminated, which caused a run on bottled water.

The Northern District staff responded by meeting with the TV station management to explain the facts, providing correct information to local news media, setting up a web page with information about the situation, answering public and media inquiries, and offering testing for nitrate at no charge to private well owners in the Antelope area. The Department's Bryte Laboratory assisted this effort by rescheduling other activities so the 170 samples provided by residents could be analyzed.

Jim Rohrbach of the CVRWQCB thanked DWR for its study and the audience applauded.

Information about the groundwater situation can be found at: www.dpla.water.ca.gov/nd

The final report also will be available at this web address when internal DWR review is completed.

*Congratulations to the following
DWR employees for all their hard work.*

*The following outstanding DWR
employees received awards for their dedi-
cation, talent, professionalism, enthusi-
asm, and pride in their work.*

*Meritorious Service Awards recognize
exemplary job performance or out-
standing contributions to Department
programs. Unit Citations are presented to
sections, units, or groups (including task
forces), that solve a particularly difficult
problem.*

Meritorious Award



Dan Easton, Engineer in Bay-Delta Office, for his outstanding accomplishment in the development and application of a new modeling technique to evaluate water supply benefits of the In-Delta Storage Program and the Off-Stream Storage Investigation of the CALFED Storage Program.

Meritorious Award



Stephanie Pettitt, Associate Information Systems Analyst in Division of Management Services' Personnel Office, for her exemplary performance and customer service over the past two years in the Personnel Office.

Meritorious Award



Don Duncan, System Software Specialist III in Division of Technology Services, for his innumerable contributions identifying and implementing processes which enhance the Department's business processes.

AWARDS

Meritorious Service Awards and Unit Citations



Unit Citation

Radial Gate Re-Evaluation Team

For their outstanding contributions in successfully completing the State Water Project Dams Radial Gates Reevaluation Reports and Rehabilitating the Oroville Dam and Thermalito Diversion Dam Spillway Radial Gates.

(L-R) Front Row: Seated: Genevieve Schrader (Engineering), Iskander Samaan (Operations and Maintenance, Oroville), Rashid Ahmad (Engineering), Farshid Falaki (Engineering), Dzung Hoang (Engineering); **Standing:** Julie Lee (Engineering), Sharon Lopez (Engineering), June Pascual (Engineering); **Sitting:** Marcia Hatanaka (Engineering), Teresa Sutliff (O&M), Jasmine Doan (Engineering), Grace Chen (Engineering), April Buchberger (Engineering).

(L-R) Middle Row: Mike Driller (Engineering), Mark Schultz (Safety of Dams), Division of Engineering Chief Les Harder, Michael Anderson (Engineering), Clarice Moody (Engineering), Richard Draeger (Safety of Dams), Cindy Beach (Engineering), Mike Inamine (Engineering), Wayne Cedidla (Engineering), Ron Lee (Engineering), Richard Lackie (Engineering), Masood Mesbah (Engineering), Gary Gravier (O&M), William Cochran (O&M, Oroville), Craig Trombly (SWP Analysis Office), Perry Sheth (Engineering), Fred Sage (Safety of Dams), Wallace Lam (Safety of Dams), Joe Royer (Engineering), Deputy Director Tom Glover.

(L-R) Back Row: Sean Mann (Safety of Dams), John Quisenberry (Engineering), Jim Peddy (Engineering), John Keller (Engineering), Timothy Kennelly (O&M), Mark Herold (O&M), John Squires (Engineering), Everett Penn (Safety of Dams), Scott Hunt (Engineering), William Pennington (Safety of Dams), John Meininger (Engineering), Gordon Enas (Engineering)

Not Shown: Division of Engineering: Joseph Barron II, John Berringer, Diana Corbeil, Randolph Hanson, Thomas Higgins, Sherrie Lang, Ben LaSarte, Jerry Leslie, Ronald O'Quinn, Andrew Olsufka, Joeston Rabara, Muhammad Rashid, David Sale, Arnold Sanchez, Roberta Shuper, William Sutcliffe, Reza Tajeran, Ronald Wer-muth, David R. Williams; Safety of Dams: Shawn Jones; Planning & Local Assistance, Central District: Negah Khodamardi; Operations & Maintenance: David Bakhoun, Stephen Burke, Kenneth Koebbe, Maurice Miller (Oroville), Nader Noori, David Panec; Executive: Raphael Torres.

Meritorious Service Awards and Unit Citations

Unit Citation

Enterprise Resource Planning System

For their dedicated effort, unselfish cooperation, personal sacrifices, and perseverance in ensuring that SAP continues to support the Department's needs.

All staff with Division of Technology Services unless noted:

(L-R) Front Row: Manjul Mehrotra, Mary Smith, Margarita Luna, Diane Huey, Corinne Martell.

(L-R) Middle Row: Acting Chief Deputy Director Steve Verigin, Andy Osiow, Monica Dahlberg, Wendy Underhill, Amanda Tai, Erika Ruiz, Don Duncan, Division of Technology Services Chief Ben Williams.

(L-R) Back Row: Ward Shigaki, Hong Chau, Murray Ng, Pardeep Banga.



Not Shown: Joseph Aguiar, Scott Bains-Jordan, Ronald Brauer, Jr., Michael Brown, Fabricio Cordeiro, Agnes Forshey, Mary Hamilton, Tamara Hillary, Michelle King-

Byrd, Maria Malapaya, Lori Mathis (Bay-Delta Office), Duane Rickard, John Sanchez, Robert Syphax.

Unit Citation

Network and Communications Support Office

All staff with Division of Technology Services, unless noted: For their efforts in completing a host of diverse and technically challenging telecommunications projects.

(L-R) Front Row Standing: Jill Breault, Ana Rodriguez, Yolanda Evangelista.

(L-R) Front Row Seated : Luis Ramos (Engineering), Chief of Network and Communications Support Office Ramon Murillo, Debbie Lewis-Barbour, Angela Cummins, Chuck Leni.

(L-R) Middle Row: Acting Chief Deputy Director Steve Verigin, Dan Hester, Joyce Novoa, Eileen

Hue, Kimberly Deane (Management Services), Wilma Ordiz, Dalena Viega, Matthew Chinakwe, Peter Chan, Division of Technology Services Chief Ben Williams.

(L-R) Back Row: John Fenning, Victor Garcia, Dave W. Brown, Joe Medina, Frank Farmer, Jim Crettol, Roger Linder, Ulysses Salazar.

Not Shown: Raymond Aguilar, III (CERS), Diana Cobleigh (Retired), Holly Cronin (CERS), Chris Impens, Dave Keene, Kymberly Monasterio, Archie Noriega, Ray Valdovino.



Twitchell Island Opens Doors To Other Projects

The need to alleviate the immediate threat of levee failure at the Delta's Twitchell Island resulted in the beginning of the Twitchell Island Setback project, which opened the doors to other projects. Thanks to all the work of the Levees and North Delta Branch staff, other DWR staff, and Department of Fish and Game staff, this project, which began in 1994, has demonstrated that flood control and habitat enhancement can work together to create a valuable fish and wildlife habitat and to restore the natural beauty of the Delta.

"From the time we determined the levee was close to failing, we looked for a 'win-win' option," said **Curt Schmutte**, Chief of the Levees and North Delta Branch. "Along with fixing the levee and creating wildlife habitat, it created a model for similar projects being planned on Staten and Sherman islands. To my knowledge, this project is the first setback levee done on soft peat foundations for flood control in the Delta."

Curt has worked on all phases of the Twitchell Island setback levee project since it began in the Division of Planning, now the Bay-Delta Office. Then, the project moved under Central District and now is with the Levees and North Delta Branch of the Bay-Delta Office. Although the project has been under different umbrellas and was worked on by both DWR and DFG, the goal to repair the levee and create new habitat never changed.

As part of Curt's team on the Twitchell Island project, **Jim Eckman** is the Lead Engineer, **Dave Showers** is the Lead Biologist, **Bob Yeadon** is the Senior Engineer, and **David Mraz** is the Supervising Engineer. All work hand in hand with DFG.



GETTING STARTED

After recognizing the need to create new wildlife habitat and increase the stability of Delta levees, Assembly Bill 360 was introduced in 1995 by former DWR **Director Thomas Hannigan**. Under this authorizing legislation passed in 1996, DWR received bond funding for the \$3 million Twitchell Island project.

Then, **Bill Forsythe**, now a Senior Engineer with the Division of Engineering, was the Lead Engineer on the project. Thanks to the assistance from **Juan Mercado** of Land and Right of Way and **Dave Brown** of Environmental Services, who are also part of Twitchell Island's Reclamation District, the bids were developed by engineers from Kjeldsen, Sinnock, and Neudeck Inc. (KSN). KSN consultants, under DWR's guidance, also developed the engineering plans for the project. Blue Iron Construction completed the construction and Hanford ARC Consultants completed the planting.

STARTING THE CONSTRUCTION

Part of the construction for the 3,000 foot section of Twitchell Island included a setback levee, bench, protected shallow channel, and berm. Three separate construction firms worked on this project over a span of six years. Dutra Construction placed the foundation for the new levee with dredged material from Clifton Court Forebay. A.M. Stevens built the new levee using 148,000 yards of on-island borrow material. The new levee was constructed 100 feet behind the old levee. Blue Iron Construction developed the channel and reshaped the old levee to its current form.

"By bringing material from Clifton Court Forebay, we helped dredge the forebay and provide Twitchell needed material at the same time," said Curt, who has worked for DWR since 1985. Curt also has worked four years as an engineering consultant on flood control and irrigation projects.

Excavation of the channel and shaping of the setback levee were aided by the use of laser levels. Large diameter tubes were installed to promote rapid root growth through the rock/soil mixture.

(Left photo, L-R) Bay-Delta Office's Levees and North Delta Branch staff Dave Showers and Ed Schmit shovel to check the root progression of plants on

"My 12 years with Safety of Dams prepared me well to understand technical aspects of slope stability and construction," said Dave Mraz, who has worked 14 years for DWR. "The best part of the project is the combination of interests, such as levee stability, water quality, water system reliability, flood protection, and habitat enhancement, that were served in this one project."

THE PLANTING STAGE

After the levee and 12 water entrance points were completed, DWR along with DFG staff monitored the planting of 20,000 herbaceous plants and 1,600 trees and shrubs.

"In addition to reviewing the density, elevations, and distances of various plants and trees, I assisted in approving the final designs for planting," said Lead DWR Biologist Dave Showers, who joined DWR in 1999 after working two years as a Research Associate in the Rice Genetics Program at U.C. Davis and 13 years for DFG. "Some of the various decisions that had to be made during the planting stage include whether or not to leave areas open that could invite invasion of weeds. We had to determine the cost of more planting versus less weed pulling later."

During Dave Showers' assignment at DFG, he worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and The Reclamation Board on the Upper Sacramento River Bank Protection project.

"Like Dave, I joined the project during the planting stage. I enjoyed working in the heart of the Delta where it can be an inhospitable place with high winds and waves," said Jim. "It's gratifying to see the plants doing so well in such a rough environment and it's a challenge to protect the barriers from erosion."

During Jim's 15 years with the State, he has worked 13 years with the Central Valley and Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

"In addition to managing the maintenance, erosion, and other areas, I managed a project that opened two of the entrance points into the channel between the setback levee and the barrier islands," said Jim. "During the project, root wads were also installed in the entrance

points to provide additional habitat for aquatic species."

On the waterside levee slope, grass was planted. On the bench, plants, such as sedge and creeping wild dry, and trees, such as Oregon ash, box alder, and black willow, were planted.

"In addition to the habitat providing shade and moderate temperatures for fish and aquatic animals, the vegetation also provides nesting and feeding areas for birds," said **Bob Orcutt**, Program Manager for DFG.

In the open channel, tule and ball rushes were planted. On the outer edge, willow, oak, and cottonwood trees were planted.

"This project allowed me to use background in fishery biology, water resource management, and engineering," said Bob Yeadon, who worked as a Fishery Biologist

and engineering consultant for eight years and 12 years for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

"I have really enjoyed working on this project since 1999."

Working with the Reclamation District, DWR, along with DFG will continue to monitor plant maintenance and weed control until 2004. By the end of 2003, Hanford ARC will complete its work related to planting.

"In addition to being very critical in protecting the State Water Project water supply, a Twitchell Island-type project is one valuable tool to help solve complex Delta issues," said Curt. "Special thanks to all those that assisted in making this project a reality." Others

who worked on the project include **Todd Gardner** of DFG, **Ed Litrell** of DFG, and former DWR employee **Michelle Lewis**.

If you are interested in viewing "Rip Rap to Habitat," a documentary about the Twitchell Island Setback Levee Habitat Restoration Project, contact DWR's video library at (916) 653-4893.





(Left to Right) Help Desk staff includes Supervisor **Cindy Brauer**, **Chuck Geeter**, **Chris Ladd**, and **Margie Sales**.

Helping Solve Your Computer Problems

In a typical workday, DWR's Help Desk analysts smoothly handle—and resolve—scores of electronic complaints from DWR employees. Since July 1999, when SAP went live, the role of the Help Desk analyst has expanded. Since that time, the Help Desk analysts have solved countless problems relating to passwords, SAP, and software installations.

The Help Desk is DWR's single point of contact for all Information Technology needs, including computer and SAP support. Supervised by **Cindy Brauer**, Staff Information Systems Analyst (Supervisor), who has been assigned to the Help Desk since June 2000, the staff members include **Chris Ladd**, Associate

Information Systems Analyst, with Help Desk since May 2001; **Chuck Geeter**, Associate Information Systems Analyst, assigned to the Help Desk since May 2001, and **Margie Sales**, Information Systems Technician. Margie has the longest duty tenure with the Help Desk, dating back to 1994, far predating the advent of SAP.

"There's never a dull moment at the Help Desk," said Margie, who was on hand when the Help Desk was launched in October 1994 as a "one-stop shopping" help source for employees needing computer assistance. Known initially as the ISSO Help and Information Center, it was supervised by **Bert Pierroz**.

"As information technology



changes, we do our best to assist DWR staff with updates, installs, problems, and questions,” said Margie.

The most frequent source of complaint? Password issues. Mondays typically are busy with either unlocking employees’ accounts or resetting passwords because they have been forgotten. Another common password challenge arises when computer users are required to change their password. Because most DWR employees have multiple passwords, this can become confusing.

The Help Desk is involved in many Department enterprise projects. An example was during the Department’s migration to Outlook/Exchange. Every DWR employee account had to be converted to the new system and every computer had to be upgraded to accommodate the new functionality that was implemented. Staff members from various divisions, LAN Administrators, consultants, the Help Desk, and many other people coordinated efforts to complete the project.

Servicing calls and e-mails from frustrated employees requires understanding, tact, technical skills, knowledge of the Department and its programs, and a sense of humor. The Help Desk handles about 80 to 125 issues a day.

These issues are reported in a combination of phone calls and e-mails. For the most part, DWR Help Desk clients and callers are friendly. However, at times they can be extremely frustrated. The Help Desk staff tries their best to ease the frustration and assist the user to resolve the problem.

“Some calls are more memorable than others,” said Cindy. An example would be when an employee e-mailed the Help Desk that their e-mail was NOT working!

Employees should feel free to contact the Help Desk regarding any computer or SAP issue they might have. The Help Desk can usually also assist with general departmental questions. If the Help Desk is unable to answer your question, they’ll find someone who can. The Help Desk phone number is (916) 653-8723 and the e-mail address is helpdesk@water.ca.gov



(Above) Chris Ladd takes information by phone to begin Help Desk ticket to assist DWR employee with computer problems.



Margie Sales also answers Help Desk requests for DWR employees throughout California. After the ticket is created, Margie, like Chris and Chuck, direct the tickets to the appropriate second level support person when they are unable to resolve



(Left to Right) Chuck Geeter and Cindy Brauer review DWR Form 45 (User Account Request) to verify all the information is included.

A LOVE FOR SINGING

BY ANGELA



Since their childhood, DWR employees **Mary Hamilton** and **Victoria Foster** have loved to sing. Mary remembers how happy she was to sing in the musical of “The Wizard of Oz” at her elementary school in Maryland. At the age of four, Victoria loved being center stage and she was never afraid to sing solo. Although their careers and lives may be different, Mary’s and Victoria’s love for singing brought them both to the Sacramento Choral Society.

Mary, an Associate Information Systems Analyst with the Division of Technology Services, has always loved to listen to music and sang in musicals during her school years. After singing as the Mayor of the Munchkin City in “The Wizard of Oz,” she continued to sing at her schools. During her teenage years, she continued singing.

“What inspired me to sing was my mother, who auditioned for opera when she was 13,” said Mary, who has worked nine years for the State.

“Although I don’t sing professionally, I did join the Sacramento Choral Society in 2001,” said Mary. “I joined because I loved their repertoire and with so many singers and a professional orchestra, the sound of the Choral Society was outstanding.”

Since joining the Choral Society, Mary has performed live more than 12 times. Mary has done numerous classical pieces, Broadway revues, and Christmas concerts. Each performance lasts about three hours.

“Most recently, we performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City,” said Mary. “We have also performed at the Community Center Theater, the Mondavi Center in Davis, and the Memorial Auditorium.”

“Last year, the Sacramento Choral Society received an award for best not-for-profit arts groups in Sacramento,” said Mary. “In addition to singing for the Society and taking private lessons to develop my vocal range, I will also continue singing with my Church Choir.”

Mary develops and maintains SAP software for DWR.

She also enjoys nature hikes, cooking, and writing fiction.

Like Mary, Victoria also works for DWR. As part of the Facilities Enlargement Section of Engineering’s Civil Engineering Branch, Victoria has worked on the East Branch Extension Project from concept drawings through start-up.

When Victoria is not at work, she also sings with the Sacramento Choral Society.

“I became inspired to join the society five years ago when my sister, who moved back from Wisconsin after retiring, wanted to join a performing choir,” said Victoria, who has worked 25 years for the State. “After I told her about the Choral Society and she auditioned, she called me and said that they had openings for sopranos.”

Then, Victoria auditioned and joined the Society.

“It is a great way to see my sister more often doing something we had done together as kids,” said Victoria. Since joining the Choral Society she has performed in many different places, including the Sacramento Convention Center, Memorial Auditorium, State Capitol, Mondavi Center in Davis, and Carnegie Hall.

“Besides the four to six concerts a year that I perform with the Choral Society regularly, I’ll be traveling to Europe in July 2004 on a four-city tour of Budapest, Munich, Vienna, and Prague to perform in the ancestral places of some of the greatest European composers,” said Victoria. “In 2005, the choir may perform in the Lincoln Center in Washington, D.C.”

Victoria’s love for singing came from her older siblings, who sang in choirs, and her father, who studied opera. From pop to classical, Victoria enjoys a variety of music. The first choir she began performing with was the Youth Choir at Long Creek in Illinois, where she was born. As she grew older, she continued singing and performing with different choirs.

“It was always assumed that we would take music and voice lessons as we grew up. When you love to sing, it is something you feel that you are born with,” said Victoria. “Fortunately, through my dad, I was blessed with a good strong voice and ear for music tone.”



After winning first place in the swing competition at the Arthur Murray World Dance-O-Rama in Las Vegas, DWR's Helen Frye of Land and Right of Way stands with her dancing partner Bobby

Dancing for Fun

When **Helen Frye** is not working as Secretary to Land and Right of Way's Geodetic Branch, she can be found on the dance floor competing with dancers from all over the world.

"Since I joined a singles club in 1966, I began taking ballroom partner-type dancing lessons for the FoxTrot, Waltz, Swing, Rumba, Salsa, and Cha Cha," said Helen, who has worked 22 years for DWR. "We danced at the Woodlake Inn and Sacramento Inn, where big bands like George Liberace and Bill Page played weekly. It was a lot of fun and wonderful exercise."

Helen, 82, who grew up in Hickory, North Carolina, is the oldest girl of four brothers and five sisters. Helen, who has a twin brother, moved to Bakersfield in 1948 and Sacramento in 1952. She worked for a real estate appraiser for 21 years. In this assignment, she was the sole-support staff for projects, such as Metro Airport, Tahoe Keys, Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, and the 65th Street Extension.

Helen took dancing lessons until 1978, then she stopped dancing due to her busy schedule. Helen's 25-year State career began in 1978 with the Air Resources Board, then Organization of Area Boards on Developmental Disabilities where she worked for the Director and traveled monthly to various State locations for meetings. Although Helen stopped dancing, she was

still involved with a dancing studio. In 1980, she began working for the Arthur Murray Studio part time doing their weekly report, which is sent to their headquarters in Florida.

During this time, Helen also joined DWR's Division of Land and Right of Way, where she has worked on projects for the Coastal Branch Aqueduct, East Branch Enlargement, Los Banos Grandes, Kern Water Bank, and the Delta.

"By 1996, Bobby Gonzalez, a dancer with the Arthur Murray Studio, convinced me to start dancing again," said Helen. "Our first competition was held in Hawaii in 1997. We also won first place in the swing competition at the Arthur Murray World Dance-O-Rama in Las Vegas."

Helen, who has entered approximately 15 competitions throughout the United States in the last seven years with three different partners, now competes with 29-year old Frank Williams, owner of the Arthur Murray Studio in Carmichael.

"I've enjoyed competing in Las Vegas, Atlanta, Hawaii, Victoria, Costa Mesa, and Vancouver," said Helen, who is also taking weekly lessons and dancing at the Arthur Murray Studio's "Friday Night Dance Parties." "Dancing has been a great way to relax and have fun."



At age eight, **Wendell Johnson** made a promise to his family to become a lawyer. In July, Wendell decided to retire as DWR's Staff Services Manager and Lead Investigator with 17 years of State service and make his childhood dream a reality. Wendell will attend Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of

Law in Houston, Texas in the fall of 2003.

"My family lost property in what is now the Orlando, Florida area because we were paying the local property taxes and were unaware of the state taxes," said Wendell. "After receiving a bill due from the State of Florida for back taxes amounting to \$50,000, which in those days was a lot of money, we lost the land and I vowed to my family that I would become a lawyer to protect our family from those who use the law to manipulate to their own advantage."

Before joining DWR in 1993, Wendell worked as an appointee of President George H.W. Bush, in Washington, D.C. for almost three years as a manager in the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special

Education and Rehabilitation Services. He administered a multimillion-dollar program that helped disabled Americans enhance their lives.

Wendell's career prior to his Washington position included seven years of State service. As a legislative analyst for five years with the Department of Consumer Affairs, his assignment included developing the agency's recommendations on consumer-related bills sent to the Governor and investigating businesses in violation of consumer laws. Before joining Consumer Affairs, Wendell managed the Department of Community Services' Energy Assistance Program for indigent citizens during the energy crisis of the early 1980's.

As Lead Investigator with Executive's Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations Office for 10 years, none of Wendell's investigative findings were overturned by the oversight agencies or courts. To complete his investigations on discrimination complaints, he met with both parties and all witnesses, then he wrote a final report. He also coordinated the development of the James Beckwourth Exhibit at Oroville Visitor's Center.

After passing the bar exam in Texas and California, Wendell plans to practice employment and entertainment law in those two states.

"I also intend to get back into recording more CD's and performing professionally across the country and hopefully around the world," said Wendell, who is a Gospel and Inspirational music recording artist and record producer.

Retirements

Benjamin Baez

Operations and Maintenance
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

David Bakhoun

Oroville Field Division
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer

Marvin Batten

Southern Field Division
Utility Craftworker (Supv.)

David Bilyeu

Planning & Local Assistance
Water Resources Engineering Associate

Steven Cohen

Office of the Chief Counsel
Assistant Chief Counsel

Michael Dudek

Southern Field Division
Water Resources Tech. II

Thomas Hannigan

Executive
Director, DWR

Richard Hayes

Planning & Local Assistance
Senior Engineer

John Lyon

Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Raymond Martin

Flood Management
Assistant Information Systems Analyst

John Quisenberry

Engineering
Senior Engineer

James Richardson

Oroville Field Division
HEP* Operator

Helen Sugiyama

Operations and Maintenance
Senior Stenographer

David Taylor

Operations and Maintenance
Senior Water & Power Dispatcher

Harry Weekly, Jr.

Southern Field Division
HEP* Mechanic II

Lonnie Wooten

Management Services
Heavy Equipment Mechanic

* **Hydroelectric Plant**

** **Hydroelectric Power**

40 years



Kenneth Craig
Engineering
Water Resources Engineering Associate
July 2003

Twenty-five years of service



Richard Allen
Environmental Services
Water Resources Technician
August 2003



Linda Currie
Southern Field Division
Water Resources Tech. II
September 2003



Rose Dulay
Operations and Maintenance
Assoc. Govern. Prog. Analyst
September 2003



Frank Glick
Engineering
Supervising Engineering Geologist
October 2003



David Inouye
Southern District
Chief of Water Conservation and Land and Water Use Section
July 2003



Barbara Knight
Engineering
Delineator
May 2003



Wanda Knouff
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer (Supervisor)
April 2003



Gilberto Lujan Jr.
San Luis Field Division
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
September 2003



Carol Scott
Operations and Maintenance
Chief of Administrative Services Office
August 2003

** Hydroelectric Power

Promotions

John Andrew
Planning & Local
Assistance
Supervising Engineer

Joe Armas
Management Services
Office Technician
(Typing)

Craig Baillie
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Susan Bowen
San Joaquin Field
Division
HEP* Electrician II

Rebecca Boyer
Management Services
Office Technician
(Typing)

Wayne Cedidla
Engineering
Senior Mechanical En-
gineer, HS

Michael Christenson
Engineering
Senior Mechanical En-
gineer, HS

Ronney De Arman
SWP Analysis Office
Office Technician
(Typing)

Kevin Dossey
Northern District
Senior Engineer

Yolanda Evangelista
Technology Services
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Shaun Freiburg
Southern Field Division
Control Systems
Technician II

Victor Garcia, Sr.
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Victoria Gardner
Southern Field Division
HEP* Electrician I

William Gow
Engineering
Associate Electrical En-
gineer, HS

Robert Grauberger
Land & Right of Way
Senior Land Surveyor

Corey Hiratsuka
Engineering
Associate Electrical En-
gineer, HS

Terry Howell
Technology Services
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Eileen Hue
Technology Services
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Kristie Joyce
Management Services
Associate Personnel
Analyst

Charles Keene
Southern District
Environmental Program
Manager

David Keene
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Michelle King-Byrd
Technology Services
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Katherine Kishaba
Fiscal Services
Staff Services Manager II

Helen Kobayashi
Operations and
Maintenance
Office Technician
(Typing)

Adriana Ledesma
Management Services
Office Technician
(Typing)

Joel Ledesma
Operations and
Maintenance
Supervising HEP** Utility
Engineer

Roger Lee
Flood Management
Senior Engineer

Fred Light
Management Services
Digital Print Operator II

Nobuko Makino
Engineering
Staff Information System
Analyst

Don Manglona
Southern Field Division
Control Systems
Technician I

Estela Marasigan
Fiscal Services
Accounting Officer

Thomas McGivney
CERS
Senior HEP** Utility En-
gineer

Reza Molavi
CERS
Staff Information System
Analyst

Juan Munoz
San Joaquin Field Division
Control Systems
Technician II

Donald Nipper
Southern Field Division
Electrical-Mechanical Testing
Tech. II

Joyce Novoa
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Wilma Ordiz
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Michele Peterson
Fiscal Services
Management Services Tech-
nician

Rosemarie Serna
San Joaquin Field Division
Business Service Officer I

John Termeer
Management Services
Digital Print Operator II

Promotions

Raymond Valdovino
Technology Services
Staff Information System
Analyst

Guadalupe Vargas, Jr.
Operations and
Maintenance
Senior Delineator

Louis Vonderscheer
Land & Right of Way
Senior Land Surveyor

Glenn Ward
Southern Field Division
HEP* Mechanic II

Michael Whitten
CERS
Staff Information System
Analyst

John Woodling
Planning & Local
Assistance
Principal Geologist

New Hire

Laurence Kerckhoff
Office of the Chief Coun-
sel
Staff Counsel

Births

Congratulations to DWR
parents:

Mark Risney, an Engi-
neer with the State Water
Project Analysis Office,
has a son named Justin
Michael Risney, who was
born on June 11 weighing
9 pounds and 21 inches
long.

Todd Hillaire, a Senior
Engineer with Northern
District, has a son named
Daniel Joseph Hillaire,
who was born on August
13 weighing 8 pounds,
4 ounces and was 20
inches long.

*Congratulations to DWR's graduates of
the following professional exams:*

California Certified Engineering Geologist



Rob Barry
Engineering
Engineering Geologist
March 2003



Brent Lamkin
Engineering
Engineering Geologist
March 2003



Jeff Van Gilder
Engineering
Engineering Geologist
March 2003

Elizabeth Brode
Safety of Dams
Engineering Geologist
March 2003

Professional Engineer Graduates



Tim Kerr
Flood Management
Engineer
April 2003



Tawnly Pranger
Bay-Delta Office
Engineer
October 2002

Obituary



Carl Arthur Werner, a State water engineer for almost four decades, died in June. He was 92.

When he retired from DWR in July 1973 after 37 years of service, Werner was Chief of Water Operations for the State Water Project. Previously, he had served as District Engineer in DWR's Central District from 1966 to 1970.

A highlight of Werner's career was developing water and engineering data for the lawsuit Rank v. Krug, a landmark water case decided in favor of California by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Werner's earlier assignments included work in flood control, dam safety, hydrology and construction. He initially entered State service as an Associate Hydroelectric Engineer. He served under six California governors, from Frank Merriam to Ronald Reagan.

Educated at the University of California at Berkeley, Werner served almost four years as a Navy lieutenant during World War II. Assigned to duty in the Pacific with the Navy's Construction Battalion (Seabees), Werner's unit, the 40th Construction Battalion, built island airfields enabling American bombers to reach Japan.

Resuming DWR service after the war, Werner also taught a field course in hydraulics at Sacramento State College from 1954 to 1960.

Born in 1910 in Hong Kong—then a British Crown colony—Werner was the son of a German-educated doctor specializing in tropical diseases. He came to California in 1916 when his father began practicing medicine in San Francisco.

A registered civil and professional engineer in California, Werner was a Fellow and Life Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Betty; children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Remembrances may be made to the Shriners Hospital of Sacramento or the Sacramento Children's Home.

June Marie Daniels, former Northern District employee, died on August 20 at the age of 85.

Born in Los Angeles, she grew up in the San Fernando Valley. She owned and operated two Saddle and Tack Shops that supplied tack for the various Movie Studios and catered to the western actors and extras. She also raised quarter horses and participated in local parades. She won first place in the San Fernando Fiesta Parade.

During World War II, she supported her country by becoming what is commonly called a "Rosie the Riveter" working for Lockheed Aircraft building airplanes and filling jobs vacated by men that had gone to war. She later worked at various jobs starting as a telephone operator, jail matron, dispatcher for both the California Highway Patrol and the Sheriff's Department.

After her marriage in July of 1952, she moved to Eureka, California and then to other Northern California cities. As a working mother, she not only found time to raise two loving daughters, but also numerous foster children. She is remembered for her determination, classic looks, wonderful sense of humor and love of animals.

She joined DWR as a Secretary in 1963. She retired in December of 1994 as Secretary of the Resources Assessment Branch.

She is survived by her daughters Denise Grossman and Debbie Daniels.

John Mathias Hibbard, a DWR retiree, died at the age of 84 on July 5.

John worked as Chief Specifications Writer for DWR.

He is survived by his three children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Obituary



One of DWR's First Botanists, **Joyce Lacey-Rickert**, died on July 3 of cancer.

"For those of us fortunate to have known Joyce, she was ever the professional, always willing to help out, working for solutions, and was genuinely one of the nicest persons we will ever meet," said **Dale Hoffman-Floerke**, Chief of the Environmental Services Division's Environmental Compliance and Evaluation Branch. "Many of us had the opportunity to tag along on field trips both on and off State time; always a fun, learning experience, trips we will never forget. I feel privileged to have known Joyce not only as a colleague, but a good friend as well."

During Joyce's almost 20 years with Northern District, she traveled throughout California for various projects, such as monitoring vernal pools at Oroville Field Division's Clay Pit Mitigation area and surveying offstream storage sites. She independently completed extremely complex studies of wetlands and endangered plants for projects, such as Kern Water Bank, Los Banos Grandes Project, Coastal Aqueduct Study, and the Arroyo Pasajero Project. An expert in wetlands and rare plants, her opinions carried weight outside and inside of DWR. Joyce taught Wetland Awareness/Appreciation and Permitting Requirements to DWR employees statewide for a decade. She retired in March of 2001 as an Environmental Specialist IV.

Before joining DWR in 1980 as a Graduate Student Assistant, she worked as a Biological Assistant for the Institute of the Amazon Basin in Brazil. She also worked as a Teaching Assistant for California State University in Chico and a Student Assistant for the Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California in Berkeley.

Joyce is survived by her husband Randy, daughter Emily Grau, her father Leonard Lacey, her twin sister Joann Henszey, younger sister Jaculin Swigart, and brothers Lee and Lerry Lacey.

A memorial bench will be placed in Bidwell Park in Chico.

Margaret Alton, Retired Architectural Assistant, died at age 59 on July 21.

Margaret's almost 20-year DWR career began as a Structural Drafting Technician I for Design and Construction (now Division of Engineering). In 1983, she received a letter of commendation for the poster display created for National Women's History Week. She assisted with several projects, such as Devil Canyon Powerplant Enlargement, Cordelia Pumping Plant, Pearblossom Pumping Plant Enlargement, Women's Facilities Modifications at San Joaquin O&M Center, Restroom Modifications at Oroville Operations and Maintenance Center and the Vista del Lago Visitors Center. She was also an active participant in the Department's Disability Advisory Group and helped develop the office sign standards used in the Department work spaces.

She is survived by Dicky, 'Q', and Richard.



James Ley Edward died at the age of 81 on September 6 in Auburn, CA.

During the State Water Project's construction in the 1960's, James worked as a Civil Engineer for the Division of Safety of Dams.

He is survived by his wife Yvonne, four children and eleven grandchildren.

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Return-to-Work Coordinator

As DWR's Return-to-Work Coordinator, **Karina Kugel** of Management Services' Health and Safety Office helps DWR employees who have had a work-related injury, return to work.

"I identify options for industrially injured employees, such as vocational rehabilitation or other positions within the Department that they are qualified for," said Karina, who joined DWR as a Staff Services Analyst in May 2003. "Vocational rehabilitation is for employees who have been injured on the job and are unable to return to their customary duties or position."

To assist these employees throughout California, Karina's assignment involves finding training for other classifications within DWR, working with supervisors to see if there are adjustments that can be made in work environment to accommodate their needs, or brainstorming ideas with the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator.

"I enjoy working with staff on the common goal of trying to help someone," said Karina. "We work as a team and that allows us to come up with different solutions and views on different topics."

Karina's other assignments include reviewing Worker's Compensation claims filed by DWR employees, assisting with health and safety issues, and managing DWR's wellness program. She coordinates information with the State Insurance Compensation Fund, Department of Personnel Administration, and the State Personnel Board.

Before joining DWR, Karina worked as a Student Assistant for the Department of Mental Health's Office of Human Rights from 1996 to 1997.

She later joined the CALFED Bay-Delta Office in June 2000 as an Office Assistant and later Office Services Supervisor I.

Karina plans to continue working full-time at DWR while attending evening classes at California State University, Sacramento. She is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Communication Studies with an emphasis in Public Relations.

